UNITED
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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/386
20 May 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 20 MAY 1997 FROM THE DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to request that the Security Council extend an invitation under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedures to Mr. Peter Kung, head of the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the United Nations, in connection with the consideration of the item entitled "Protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations".

(Signed) Sung Hong CHOI
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Korea to the
United Nations

97-13259 (E) 200597

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/387
21 May 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 20 MAY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States aircraft continued over the period 1 to 15 May 1997 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

You are requested to intervene with this country with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-13420 (E) 220597 220597 230597

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Annex

Violations of Iraq's airspace and damage caused, 1-15 May 1997

1. In the northern region 77 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Amadiyah, Zakho, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Rawanduz and Dukan.

2. In the southern region 850 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Amarah, Qurnah, Shinafiyah, Diwaniyah South, Artawi, Busayyah, Salman, Shatrah, Jalibah, Rumaythah, Lasaf, Suwayrah, Chabaish, Razzazah, Qal'at Sukkar, Rahhaliyah, Shu'aybah, Hamzah, Ali al-Sharqi, Rifa'i, Hayy East, Qal'at Salih, Ushbayjah, Aziziyah, Safwan, Jabal Sanam, Hillah, Shithathah and Ali al-Gharbi.

3. On 20 occasions United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated the Republic of Iraq's airspace in the southern region before leaving in the direction of Kuwait.

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S/1997/388
22 May 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 9 MAY 1997 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the command of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF).

Major-General Johannes C. Kosters, who has served as Force Commander of UNDOF since January 1995, will leave his post on 31 May 1997. Following the usual consultations with the Governments concerned, I wish to inform the Security Council of my intention to appoint Major-General David Stapleton of Ireland to the post of Force Commander of UNDOF with effect from 1 June 1997.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1997/389
22 May 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 22 MAY 1997 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 9 May 1997 (S/1997/388) concerning your intention to appoint Major-General David Stapleton of Ireland, to succeed Major-General Johannes C. Kosters, as the next Force Commander of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council. They agree with the intention contained in the letter.

(Signed) PARK Soo Gil
President of the Security Council

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General Assembly
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A/51/907
S/1997/390
22 May 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 58
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 21 May 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 20 May 1997, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Osman Ertuğ, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 58, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 20 May 1997 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter dated 13 May 1997 addressed to you, I have the honour to bring to your attention new evidence regarding the utilization and apparent expropriation of Turkish Cypriot-owned properties in the south by the Greek Cypriot authorities.

At a press conference he held on 16 May 1997, the Greek Cypriot Interior Minister, Mr. Dinos Michaelides, disclosed that "over 4,000 Greek Cypriot refugees would be given ownership titles" for plots on which they have built homes (The Cyprus Mail, 17 May 1997). Although the plots in question are claimed to be on "state-owned land", the Greek Cypriot official admitted that "there were several problems with these homes ... Problems included the use of Turkish Cypriot homes ...".

The above information speaks for itself and confirms the utilization and even expropriation of Turkish Cypriot properties in the south by the Greek Cypriot administration. It also shows the hypocrisy behind the Greek Cypriot side's complaints that the Turkish Cypriot side is utilizing abandoned property in the north.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 58, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

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GENERAL

S/1997/391
22 May 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 22 MAY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 21 May 1997 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, giving further details of the fresh incursions into Iraq's territory being carried out by the Turkish armed forces and urging the United Nations to meet its responsibilities as laid down in the Charter and to halt the intimidation and aggression to which Iraq is constantly being subjected.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-13564 (E) 230597 230597 240597

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Annex

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 21 MAY 1997 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF IRAQ ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Further to my letter of 18 May 1997 concerning fresh incursions into the territory of the Republic of Iraq by Turkish armed forces (S/1997/379, annex), I should like to inform you that the Turkish aerial violations have been continuing. The details are set forth hereunder.

1. Between 1052 and 1430 hours on 15 May 1997 Turkish fighter aircraft violated the airspace of the Republic of Iraq with five sorties, carried out by two two-aircraft formations and three single aircraft. This aerial activity was centred on the Zakho, Amadiyah, Sarsank, Atrush, Shaykhan, Pibu, Qush and Batufah areas.

2. Between 0730 and 1450 hours on 17 May 1997 Turkish fighter aircraft violated the airspace of the Republic of Iraq with four sorties, carried out by two two-aircraft formations. This aerial activity was centred on the areas indicated in paragraph 1 above.

3. Between 0847 and 1350 hours on 18 May 1997 Turkish fighter aircraft violated the airspace of the Republic of Iraq with 10 sorties, carried out by five two-aircraft formations. This aerial activity was centred on the Batufah, Zakho, Pibu, Sharanish, Amadiyah and Aqrah areas.

4. Between 0850 and 1905 hours on 19 May 1997 Turkish fighter aircraft violated the airspace of the Republic of Iraq with nine sorties. This aerial activity was centred on the Zakho, Amadiyah, Pibu and Batufah areas.

In conveying to you the details of this new incursion and of these violations by the Turkish armed forces, the Government of Iraq expresses its condemnation of such acts of military aggression. It does so because the practices of the Turkish forces, as represented by their repeated shelling of towns and villages in Iraq and their unlawful incursions into Iraqi territory, are in flagrant violation of Iraq's sovereignty and the inviolability of its territory and airspace, just as they are incompatible with relations of good-neighbourliness, the Charter of the United Nations, the norms of international law and the 1926 Iraq-Turkey boundary agreement. These practices may also undermine stability in the region as a whole, which is suffering primarily from the anomalous situation created by the United States of America and its allies in northern Iraq.

As stated in my previous letter, the Turkish Government bears full international responsibility for the acts of aggression it commits inside Iraqi territory and for all their consequences, regardless of the alleged reasons it gives.

The Government of Iraq reserves its legitimate right under international law to determine an appropriate response to such brutal military aggression and

to seek compensation for the damage caused by these Turkish breaches and violations of Iraq's territory and airspace and for the human suffering inflicted on Iraqi citizens by these acts of aggression. Through you, it renews its call to the Government of Turkey to reconsider its policy with respect to the situation in northern Iraq, to promote the collaboration of the two countries on the basis of considerations of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect for sovereignty and to eliminate the reasons for the persistence of a situation that jeopardizes the interests of both countries.

As, through you, I reiterate my country's call to its Turkish neighbour to respect Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity, I express the hope that the United Nations will meet its responsibilities as laid down in the Charter and that it will halt the intimidation and aggression to which my country is constantly being subjected.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq

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S/1997/392
23 May 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 MAY 1997 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to convey to you the attached letter dated 23 May 1997, which I have received from the Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations (see annex). Attached to the letter is the fourth bi-weekly report on the multinational protection force for Albania requested by the Security Council in resolution 1101 (1997) of 28 March 1997.

I should appreciate your bringing the text of the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

97-13654 (E) 230597

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Annex

Letter dated 23 May 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to submit the fourth report on the multinational protection force for Albania (see appendix). The report is submitted pursuant to the requirement set out in paragraph 9 of Security Council resolution 1101 (1997) of 28 March 1997, in which the Council requested the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to provide periodic reports, at least every two weeks, through the Secretary-General, to the Council. The third such report was conveyed to you on 9 May (S/1997/362, annex).

I should be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and the fourth report circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Giulio TERZI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Appendix

Fourth report to the Security Council on the operation of the multinational protection force in Albania

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 28 March 1997, the Security Council adopted resolution 1101 (1997), in paragraph 2 of which it welcomed the offer made by certain Member States to establish a temporary and limited multinational protection force to facilitate the safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance, and to help create a secure environment for the missions of international organizations in Albania, including those providing humanitarian assistance.

2. In paragraph 9 of the resolution the Security Council requested the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to provide periodic reports, at least every two weeks, through the Secretary-General to the Council. The first report was provided on 9 April 1997 (S/1997/296, annex), specifying inter alia, the parameters and modalities of the operation on the basis of consultations between Member States participating in the force and the Government of Albania; the second report was provided on 25 April 1997 (S/1997/335, annex); the third was provided on 9 May 1997 (S/1997/362, annex). The fourth report refers to events between 7 and 22 May 1997.

II. MULTINATIONAL PROTECTION FORCE

Political guidance

3. The Steering Committee, consisting of the political directors of the troop-contributing countries and the Commander of the operation, continues to follow the overall situation on the ground and the full compliance of the activities of the force with the mandate of the Security Council. It meets on a weekly basis. To date it has held regular meetings on 4, 9, 14, 23, 30 April and 6, 14 and 22 May.

4. A special meeting at the ministerial level was held in Paris on 13 May with the participation of the ministers for Foreign Affairs and of Defence of the troop-contributing countries.

5. Portugal, having formally decided to contribute to the force with a transport aircraft and its crew, joined the Steering Committee as of the meeting of 14 May. Belgium continues to attend the Committee meetings as an observer.

6. Representatives of the following international organizations regularly attend the meetings of the Steering Committee as observers: United Nations, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), European Union (EU), Western European Union (WEU) and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Cooperation with Albanian authorities

7. The Secretary of State to the Albanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Pavli Zeri, attended the meeting of the Steering Committee on 14 May. He confirmed the full support of the Government of Albania for the multinational protection force operation and expressed appreciation for the humanitarian activities in the security framework provided by the force. He also provided the Committee with information about the situation in the country and its current political difficulties with regard to the process towards elections.

8. The Steering Committee intends to maintain constant contacts with the Albanian authorities, in particular the Central Commission established to serve as the interdepartmental point of coordination and contact with the force in Tirana.

9. Numerous meetings took place at the political level between members of the Albanian Government and authorities of the troop-contributing countries. The Prime Minister of Albania, Mr. Bashkim Fino, accompanied by several members of his Government, met in Rome on 10 May with the Italian Prime Minister, Mr. Romano Prodi, and corresponding members of the Italian Government for an overall evaluation of the situation.

10. At the local level, the force in several cases established contacts with district authorities and commanders of police stations.

Cooperation with international organizations

11. The Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Mr. Franz Vranitzky, paid several visits to Albania in an effort to promote political compromise towards holding parliamentary elections according to procedures acceptable to all parties. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) continue their child-polio vaccination campaign. A World Bank/International Monetary Fund (IMF) assessment mission arrived in Tirana in the first week of May. An advance party of the WEU mission for the advisory, training and support programme for the Albanian police started its activities in Tirana on 12 May.

12. The force continues to ensure the security framework for civil and humanitarian missions as well as for humanitarian convoys. Several United Nations agencies, including, among others, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Food Programme (WFP), UNICEF and WHO, as well as the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, are active in Albania and maintain operational contacts with the force as far as security is concerned.

Force deployment

13. The force has strengthened its military organization in Albania: acquisition of the main entry points has taken place and the completion of the deployment of the force contingents has been effected as planned without any inconvenience. The force is now progressively expanding the security framework throughout the country.

14. As of 22 May, the deployment of the force was completed at a level of 6,556 units. The Slovenian medical unit arrived in Albania on 16 May and was deployed in Rinas. The current deployment of the force is as follows: Austria, 115; Denmark, 59; France, 954; Greece, 788; Italy, 3,099; Romania, 399; Slovenia, 24; Spain, 344 and Turkey, 774.

Summary of operations

15. In carrying out its mandate, the force has gained control of many of the main roads and avenues of communication in Albania. A security framework is being provided to several civil and humanitarian convoys.

16. Reconnaissance missions, including some naval ones, airlifts and patrols have been carried out extensively in the north of Albania, in the central part of the country, as well as in the south. On 13 May reconnaissance missions began in the areas of planned expansion of the presence of the force in Albania.

17. Upon a request submitted to the Force Command through the Civil-Military Cooperation Committee, protection measures were undertaken in favour of WHO, UNICEF and several missions of non-governmental organizations travelling in Albania.

18. Assistance and protection for official visits continues to be provided as appropriate by the force.

III. CONCLUSIONS

19. The deployment of the force has had a positive effect on the overall security situation in Albania, as has also been repeatedly stressed by local authorities.

20. However, security problems continue in certain areas in the North of Albania, as well as in the South. Armed bands are still active, in particular during the night, and in some cases they impede the safe transit of assistance missions and humanitarian supplies.

21. On some occasions the force has faced situations in which its contingents have been fired upon, although no casualties have been reported.

22. Organized crime and racketeering are still creating obstacles to a full resumption of economic and social activities, in particular where police control is poor or non-existent.

23. The political situation in the country is a matter of concern, considering the efforts by the international community to assist in resolving the Albanian crisis.